

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application.

By this Amendment, the claims are amended to recite additional features and for clarity.

In particular, independent claim 13 is added. Original independent claim 1 is rewritten in dependent form, depending from claim 13. Claims 1-5 are amended, and dependent claims 6-20 are added.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph; rejects claims 2 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph; and rejects claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §101. Claims 1-5 are amended, partly to overcome these rejections. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs, and §101 is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0083101 to Card et al. (Card); and rejects claims 3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Card in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,886,036 to Santamaki et al. (Santamaki). These rejections are respectfully traversed with respect to the rejected claims 1-5; as well as to the newly added independent claim 13, as if claim 13 were similarly rejected.

Claim 13 is added to recite additional features, as outlined above. Card and Santamaki do not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claim 13. For example, claim 13 recites a user interface system that uses physically arranged computer visualization components to mimic a traditional library or traditional retail store, including a plurality of selectors and a user identifying device that reads identification information of a user. These features are not disclosed or suggested in the applied references.

Claims 1-5 are patentable at least in view of the patentability of claim 13, from which they depend, as well as for additional features they recite. For example, claim 1 is amended to recite additional features, as outlined above. Card and Santamaki do not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claim 1. In particular, claim 1, as amended, recites a cabinet that has a space for mounting items therein, and a plurality of items mechanically mounted in the space, each of the plurality of items being capable of mechanically protruding out of the cabinet. These features are not disclosed or suggested in the applied references.

Specifically, Card discloses a screen that displays an image of a shelf, and images of books. See Fig. 1. The displayed shelf and books are only images of a shelf and books, and not an actual shelf or actual books. For example, the displayed books cannot mechanically protrude out of the displayed shelf image. Thus, Card does not disclose or suggest all features recited in claim 1.

Also, Santamaki does not supply the subject matter lacking in Card. Thus, Card and Santamaki, either individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claim 1, and claims 2-5 depending therefrom. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

New claims 6-20 are patentable at least in view of the patentability of claim 13, from which they depend, as well as for additional features they recite. For example, the applied references do not disclose or suggest a user interfacing system that replicates information regarding a first item on the screen of another item located adjacent to the first item, as recited in claim 7; or a user interfacing system that associates an item with a user card inserted in a card slot, as recited in claim 10.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:

Petition for Extension of Time

Date: November 21, 2007

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